APPENIDIXF

1999 Federal
Research Conference





The Research Working Group Persian Gulf Veterans Coordinating Board

CONFERENCE ON FEDERALLY SPONSORED GULF WAR VETERANS' ILLNESSES RESEARCH

The Doubletree Hotel
Pentagon City - National Airport
Arlington, Virginia
June 23-25, 1999

Call for Abstracts

and

Registration Booklet





ABOUT THE MEETING

The purpose and objectives of the 1999 Conference on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses Research, sponsored by the Research Working Group of the Persian Gulf Veterans Coordinating Board, is to bring together, in a common forum, researchers, clinicians, veterans, veterans groups, and government officials to:

- Provide an opportunity for researchers to present and exchange study results
- Provide an opportunity for veterans and veterans groups to learn about ongoing research and to interact directly with researchers, clinicians and government officials
- Provide an opportunity to inform executive and legislative branches of the government about research and clinical initiatives related to the Gulf War that should be considered for future deployments
- Inform clinicians of current practices for the treatment of Gulf War veterans' illnesses, and the latest research findings and their potential impact on clinical care
- Learn from recognized experts in relevant areas of research about overarching research areas as they relate to the etiology, diagnosis, and treatment of Gulf War veterans' illnesses
- Encourage communication, cooperation, and collaboration among researchers, clinicians, and veterans

FORMAT

A mix of renowned scientists, physicians, and health care providers will address the audience during the Keynote and Plenary sessions. In the afternoon, key leaders in the field will preside over Thematic Platform Sessions with presentations drawn from submitted abstracts that specifically highlight the work of Gulf War veterans' illnesses researchers. Additional abstracts of Gulf War veterans' illnesses researchers will be displayed as posters during poster sessions. Clinical Sunrise Symposiums will be held on Thursday and Friday morning and a special Clinicians Forum will be held on Friday afternoon.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

ABSTRACTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 30, 1999

Abstract Information

Investigators are invited, Federally sponsored investigators are encouraged, to submit an abstract for consideration for presentation at the Conference on Federally Sponsored Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses Research. Because research sponsored by the Federal government is a major focus of this meeting, priority consideration for presentations will be given to those scientists receiving Federal funds for Gulf War veterans' illnesses research. The Planning Committee will review all abstracts. The committee reserves the right to return (or not publish) abstracts that it feels do not meet basic standards of scientific rigor or quality. However, it is the intention of the planning committee to publish all acceptable abstracts, regardless of whether the abstract was selected for presentation. The following instructions are to assist you in preparing your abstract. Submission of an abstract does not constitute registration for the meeting. The text of your camera-ready abstract (1-page limit) will be published in proceedings that will be made available at the time of the meeting. All abstracts must be submitted to Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) by April 30, 1999.

Abstracts must describe in a succinct manner the purposes and results of the research so that the quality, originality, and comprehensiveness of the work can be evaluated by the Technical Program Committee (TPC). The abstract should contain a title, author's name and affiliation, followed by a single-spaced abstract, key words, and contract acknowledgement. It is generally accepted that the first author of an abstract will be its presenter. Each abstract must contain and abstract section headings must identify (a) an introduction indicating the purpose of the study; (b) hypothesis to be tested; (c) a brief description of pertinent experimental procedures; (d) a summary of the results to date; and (e) conclusions. Titles should be indicative of the content of the abstract. The enclosed blue-lined formatted paper must be used for the abstract.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS (CONT.)

The TPC requests that authors select a topic that best describes their abstract. The topics serve as a guide in the selection and grouping of abstracts for particular sessions. Topics are listed on the enclosed Abstract Submission Form. All submitted abstracts will be reviewed by the TPC, which will ultimately determine placement. Acceptance letters and presentation guidelines will be sent to presenters in May.

Instructions for Submission of Abstracts

- 1. Submission Form....A completed "Abstract Submission Form" must accompany each abstract. Include the full name, address, fax, telephone, and electronic mail numbers of the first author as well as topic and presentation choices.
- Abstract.....The first page of the text of the abstract must contain the title (bold, all caps), complete names of authors (bold, initials caps), and affiliations (initial caps, unbolded), followed by the single-spaced abstract. The keywords and contract acknowledgements (see below) must also appear at the bottom of the first page as indicated in blue on the pre-lined page form.
- 3. Titles.....Titles should be indicative of the content of the abstract. All words necessary to identify the subject matter should be included in the title. Periods (not dashes or other punctuation) should be used to separate two-part titles; titles must be in all capital letters and bolded. Abbreviations are not permitted.
- 4. Text Page.....Use font "Times" and size "11." (Do not type text of abstract in all capitals. Do not exceed the blue lines. Place figures and tables within the text. Legends should be beneath the figures or tables.) On the text pages, begin single-spaced typing one line below the top blue outline. Skip one line between paragraphs. Paragraphs should be flush to the left-hand margin.
- 5. Section Headings.....As referenced above, each abstract must contain and abstract section headings must identify (a) an introduction indicating the purpose of the study; (b) hypothesis to be tested; (c) a brief description of pertinent experimental procedures; (d) a summary of the results, to date; and (e) conclusions. Abstracts that do not follow this format may be rejected without further consideration.
- 6. Keywords.....Provide up to 3 keywords (no more than 2-4 phrases and no more than 3 words per phrase) as indicated in blue on the pre-lined page. Type "Keywords:" followed by the keywords (initial capital letters, bolded).
- 7. Acknowledgement.....Include complete contract acknowledgement at the bottom of the page. Please identify the source of your funding (e.g., VA Merit Review, DoD contract, NIH) as well as the appropriate grant, contract or project number.
- 8. Abbreviations....Abbreviations may be used in the text of the abstract if they are defined at their first mention in the text.
- 9. Length.....Do not exceed 1 page unless you are including graphics (see #12).
- 10. Camera-Ready Copy.....Submit one set of clear, error-free ORIGINALS suitable for camera-ready reproduction. DO NOT FOLD. DO NOT USE DOT MATRIX PRINTERS. The abstract will appear in the proceedings exactly as submitted.
- 11. Hard Copies and Disk.....Authors are asked to submit their abstracts on computer disks (3 ½") in Microsoft Word or Word Perfect. Three photocopies of the extended abstract, along with the camera-ready copy, must accompany the disk. Please label the disk with the author's name, title of presentation, and whether it is in Microsoft Word or Word Perfect.
- 12. Graphics.....Use of graphs and charts, etc., is encouraged and may constitute a second page of the abstract. If submitting graphics, supply high-contrast, black and white graphics when possible. Color and halftone illustrations cannot be properly reproduced.

PRELIMINARY MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, June 22, 1999

4:00 - 6:30PM Plaza Ballroom Foyer
Registration

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

8:00 AM Plaza Ballroom Foyer Registration

8:00 - 9:00 AM Plaza Ballroom Foyer
Continental Breakfast Available

9:00 AMPlaza Ballroom
Welcome and Overview of Research

9:30 AM

Keynote

10:00 AM

Unexplained Illnesses - Quantitative Focus

10:45 AM

Unexplained Illnesses – Qualitative Focus

11:15 AM

IOM Presentation 1:

NAS/IOM/NRC Overview, Studies on the Health Consequences of Service in the Gulf, Khamisiyah

11:30 AM

IOM Presentation 2:

Studies on the CCEP, the Health Status of GW Veterans, and the Health Effects of GW Exposures

11:45 AM

IOM Presentation 3:

Study on Strategies to Protect the Health of Deployed U.S. Forces

12:00 PM

Case Definitions Panel

2:00 - 5:00 PM

Concurrent Platform Sessions

5:00 - 7:00 PM

Poster Session and Reception

Thursday, June 24, 1999

"Future Research"

7:15 - 8:45 AM

Clinical Sunrise Symposium 1:

- Veteran Centered Care: Getting to the Heart of the Gulf War Matter
- Medical Management of Gulf War Veterans with Chronic Multisymptom Illnesses

8:00 AMFederal Hall

Continental Breakfast and Informal Poster Viewing

8:55 AMPlaza Ballroom
Plenary Session Introduction

9:00 AM

NRC Study of Low-Level Chemical Warfare Nerve Agent Risk Assessment

9:30 AM

Neurobiology of Stress

10:00 AM

Report of the Executive Planning
Committee for the Health Impact of
Chemical Exposures During the
Gulf War: A Research Planning
Conference

10:30 AM

Annual Report to Congress on Federally Sponsored Research for 1998

11:15 AM

Neurotoxins

11:45 AM

Risk Assessment Methodologies

2:00 - 5:00 PM

Concurrent Platform Sessions

5:00 - 7:00 PM

Veterans Research Forum (TBD)

Friday, June 25, 1999

"Clinical Research: Prevention/ Intervention and Care"

7:15 - 8:30 AM

Clinical Sunrise Symposium 2:

- Psychosocial Management of Gulf War Veterans with Chronic Multisymptom Illnesses
- Communication of Causation to Gulf War Veterans with Chronic Multisymptom Illnesses

8:00 AM Federal Hall

Continental Breakfast and Informal Poster Viewing

8:55 AM Plaza Ballroom
Plenary Session Introduction

9:00 AM

Clinical Trial Methodology and Its Application to Symptom Based Conditions

9:45 AM

VA/DoD Treatment Trials for Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses

10:30 AM

Force Health Protection

11:00 AM

Panel Discussion

11:30 AM

Closing Remarks

1:00 - 5:00 PM

Clinical Session

1:00 - 1:50 PM

Depleted Uranium Exposure & Gulf War Veterans' Health

2:00 - 2:20 PM

Gulf War Veterans' Health Concerns in the United Kingdom

2:20 - 3:30 PM

Special Treatment Programs for Gulf War Veterans:

- DoD Specialized Care Program
- Veterans Administration (VA)
 Demonstration Projects

3:45 - 4:30 PM

Research into Practice:

- Communication of New Findings to Veterans
- Introduction to the VA Cooperative Studies Trials

TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Maria Rosario G. Araneta, Ph.D., M.P.H. Epidemiologist, Naval Health Research Center

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Patricia Collins

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), TRICARE Management Activity

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LTC, MC, USA; Research Area Manager, Military Operational Medicine, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command

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Carla L. Post

Director, Conferences and Media Relations, Science Applications International Corporation

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Roberta F. White, Ph.D.

Research Director, Boston Environmental Hazards Center

Barry W. Wilson, Ph.D.

Professor of Environmental Toxicology and Avian Sciences, University of California

PLENARY PRESENTERS TO DATE

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Senior Program Officer, Medical Follow-up Agency, Institute of Medicine

Robert Snyder, Ph.D.

Professor and Chairman, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Rutgers University College of Pharmacy; Associate Director, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute

Peter S. Spencer, Ph.D.

Scientific Director, Portland Environmental Hazards Research Center

Simon Wessely, M.D.

Department of Psychological Medicine, Kings College London

Barry W. Wilson, Ph.D.

Professor of Environmental Toxicology and Avian Sciences, University of California

SPEAKER INFORMATION AND POSTER GUIDELINES

Speaker Information/Presentation Format

Opening, Keynote, and Plenary Morning Sessions will be presented in double projection; speakers are requested to bring two sets of 35 mm slides for this purpose. Speakers should plan to arrive at the meeting room approximately 15 minutes before the session begins, notify the session chair of their arrival, and give their slides to the projectionist. Slide and overhead projectors will be provided in the Afternoon Platform Sessions for speakers. Speakers will be expected to operate the overhead or slide projector (a remote control will be provided for slide projectors).

Slide Preparation

All slides should be duplicates, not originals, in case of loss or damage. Slides should be thumb-spotted by placing a mark in

the upper right-hand corner of the slide when it is loaded properly in the slide tray, and numbered in the proper sequence. Use standard horizontal format. Vertical and super slides should be avoided. Extra slide carousels will be available.

Poster Session Setup

Presenters must have their posters assembled and ready for display in Federal Hall by 4:00 PM, June 23. Poster boards will be available for setup between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM on June 23. Poster assignment numbers will be displayed in front of the exhibit hall as well as listed in the Program Booklet. Posters are to remain on display until 9:00 AM, June 25. All materials must be removed by 12:00 noon on June 25. Poster Format Guidelines will be sent to presenters in May.

LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

Meeting Location

Doubletree Hotel Pentagon City-National Airport 300 Army Navy Drive Arlington, VA 22202

Phone: 703-416-4100 Fax: 703-416-4126

Hotel Accommodations

A block of hotel rooms has been reserved at the Doubletree Hotel at the Government per diem rate for Washington, DC (\$115 plus tax). Participants must contact the hotel directly at 703-416-4100 by May 22, 1999 to make reservations. Be sure to identify yourself as a member of the Gulf War Veterans' Meeting group in order to receive the special rate. Rooms must be guaranteed with one night's deposit which may be made by check, money order, or credit card. Any reservation requests made after May 22, 1999 will be accepted on a space available basis only. Availability is not guaranteed so reserve early.

Registration

All participants must register for the meeting using the enclosed Advance Registration Form. Priority will be given to Federally Sponsored Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses Researchers and Clinicians. Please return the form with your registration fee by May 21 to obtain the reduced registration rate. Registrations received after May 21 and on-site registration will be accepted at the late fee amount. Registration confirmation will be faxed to all participants. Registration fees are:

Received <u>by May 21......\$125</u> Received <u>after May 21......</u>\$150

The registration fee provides (1) admittance to all scientific and poster sessions, (2) continental breakfast on Wednesday through Friday, (3) AM and PM refreshments concurrent with the Technical Program sessions, and (4) one copy of the Conference Proceedings plus conference materials. Advance registration is encouraged. The sole intent of the registration fee is to promote,

enhance, and facilitate technical discussions and long-term professional relationships/collaborations in Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses Research. On-site registration will take place in the Doubletree Plaza Ballroom Foyer on Tuesday, June 22 from 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM and will begin again on Wednesday, June 23 at 8:00 AM.

Air and Ground Transportation

The Doubletree Hotel is located 5 minutes from National Airport and approximately 40 minutes from Dulles International Airport. The hotel provides a free shuttle service to and from the Pentagon, Pentagon City Metro Station (Blue and Yellow Line) and National Airport. Participants who arrive at National Airport should proceed to the baggage claim area where they will find a courtesy phone with a direct connection to the Doubletree. The Super Shuttle, 1-800-258-3826, provides shuttle service from Dulles International Airport to the Doubletree at approximately \$22 per person. Parking at the hotel is available at a rate of \$7 for 8 hours and \$10 for 24 hours.

SAIC Travel

Special discounted airfares are available through SAIC Travel-Conference Services. If you would like reservations assistance, please complete the "Travel" section on the enclosed Advance Registration Form.

Lunch

Lunches are not provided during the meeting. A list of area restaurants will be included with your registration materials.

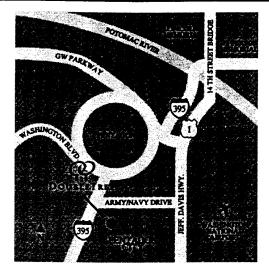
Special Assistance

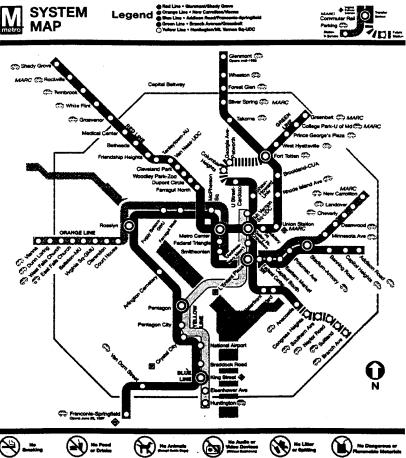
In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the conference organizers and the Doubletree Hotel will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities at the meeting.

Continuing Medical Education (CME) Credits

CME credits will be provided for this meeting. Specific details will be forwarded as soon as they become available.

LOGISTICAL INFORMATION (CONT.)





QUESTIONS?

Technical or Program Issues

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Logistics/Registration/Abstract Issues

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